

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 02170 01 OF 02 191243Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----099616 191248Z /50

O P 191200Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6319
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL STANBUL PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 2170

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH ACTING PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU

REF: (A) STATE 196788, (B) NICOSIA 1826 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: KYPRIANOU PROMISES CONTINUITY OF MAKARIOS' POLICIES, INCLUDING PRIMARY RELIANCE ON COOPERATION WITH US IN WORKING FOR A CYPRUS SOLUTION AND NO CHANGE IN PRESENT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OR OTHER KEY GOVERNMENTAL POSITIONS. HE WILL VISIT NEW YORK FOR OPENING OF UNGA AND HOPES THAT HE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET PRESIDENT CARTER AS WELL AS SECRETARY VANCE. GOC DELEGATION TO LATER UNGA CYPRUS DEBATE WILL BE HEADED BY FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES. GOC WILL PRESS FOR A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVIOUS CYPRUS RESOLUTIONS. KYPRIANOU FAVORS A COLATERAL EFFORT ON AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BUT SAYS HE IS AWARE THAT THE PROBABILITY IS NEGLIGIBLE, AS WOULD BE THE RESULTS IF A CONFERENCE WERE HELD. GOC, KYPRIANOU SAYS, IS ON RECORD AS FAVORING CONTINUED INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATION, BUT HE WAS CAREFULLS NONCOMMITTAL ABOUT ANY FRESH STATEMENT TO
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THAT EFFECT. END SUMMARY.

1. I CALLED ON ACTING PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU MORNING AUGUST 19.
I WAS MOST GRATEFUL TO HAVE RECEIVED DEPT'S HELPFUL AND PROMPT GUIDANCE IN REF A.

2. I TOLD KYPRIANOU THAT I PERSONALLY AND USG WISHED HIM WELL IN

CARRYING OUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES HE HAD ASSUMED. WE WERE IMPRESSED BY THE GREEK CYPRIOT DESIRE FOR UNITY IN THE WAKE OF CALAMITY. AS HE KNEW, ESPECIALLY FROM HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND CONVERSATIONS THERE, USG, HAVING BEEN ASKED BY MAKARIOS, REMAINS COMMITTED TO BE HELPFUL IN THE SEARCH FOR A CYPRUS SOLUTION. I SAID I WOULD BE GLAD TO KNOW KYPRIANOU'S PLANS AND HOW WE MIGHT ASSIST. I NOTED IN THIS REGARD THAT IN HIS FINAL CONVERSATION WITH ME (REF B) ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS HAD REFERRED TO HIS FOUR TRACK OF APPROACH TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AND SAID THAT WHILE PURSUING ALL, HIS ULTIMATE CONFIDENCE LAY IN RELIANCE ON AMERICAN HELP.

3. KYPRIANOU THANKED ME FOR USG'S ASSURANCES OF CONTINUED COOPERATION. HE SAID HE WAS COUNTING HEAVILY ON THIS. IN THAT CONTEXT, THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WOULD CONTINUE BETWEEN US. HE SUGGESTED THAT TO SUPPLEMENT OUR OFFICIAL, PUBLICIZED MEETINGS, WE USE A TRUSTED GO-BETWEEN TO MAINTAIN ME FREQUENT, INFORMAL CONTACT.

4. KYPRIANOU CONTINUED THAT HIS INTENTION WAS TO FOLLOW THE ARCHBISHOP'S POLICIES TO THE LETTER, INCLUDING THE FOUR COURSES OF APPROACH TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM TO WHICH I HAD REFERRED. AS HAD MAKARIOS, HIS PRIMARY RELIANCE WOULD BE ON THE US. HE WOULD VISIT ATHENS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 40-DAY PERIOD OF OFFICIAL MOURNING (WHICH ENDS SEPT 11). THEREAFTER, HE WOULD BE GOING TO NEW YORK TO ADDRESS UNGA OPENING SESSION. DURING

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HIS US STAY, HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM TO SEE PRESIDENT CARTER AS WELL AS SECRETARY VANCE. FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES WOULD BE REPRESENTING GOC FOR THE LATER CYPRUS DEBATE. GOC WOULD PRESS FOR A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVIOUS GA AND SC RESOLUTIONS.

5. AT THIS POINT I SAID THAT I HAD BEEN ASKED TO SUGGEST TO THE ACTING PRESIDENT THAT IN THE US VIEW IT WOULD BE WELL TO MAKE AN EARLY PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT GOC STOOD READY TO RESUME THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AT ANY TIME. SUCH A STATEMENT, WE FELT, WOULD DEPRIVE THE TURKS AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS OF PRETEXT FOR DELAY AND PUT AN END TO SPECULATION THAT IN INTERIM GREEK CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT CANNOT ENGAGE IN FURTHER, MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS. I HAD ALSO BEEN ASKED TO MENTION THAT WE WOULD REGARD AS UNHELPFUL ANY NEW GOC PRESENTATION AT UNGA DESIGNED TO "INTERNATIONALIZE" THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

6. KYPRIANOU SAID A BIT TARTLY THAT CYPRUS HAS A FULL-TIME GOVERNMENT AS OF NOW. GOC POSITION ON INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IS A MATTER OF RECORD. IT IS QUITE WILLING TO PROCEED. IT IS DEMIREL HANDCUFFED BY ERBAKAN, AND DENKTASH HERE, WHO ARE THE PROBLEM. GOC MAINTAINS ITS VIEW ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY

OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CALLED BY IT AND NOT THE SOVIER UNION. HOWEVER, IT REALIZES THAT THIS PROPOSAL MAY NOT PROVE ACCEPTABLE INTERNATIONALLY AND THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE, EVEN IF HELD, MIGHT PRODUCE NO RESULTS.

7. KYPRIANOU SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THERE WOULD BE STABILITY UNDER HIS PRESIDENCY. IN ADDITION TO CARRYING ON MAKARIOS' POLICIES, HE WOULD RETAIN THE MAKARIOS TEAM IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND SENIOR GOVERNMENTAL POSITIONS.

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EXDIS

8. WE PARTED WITH REITERATED, MUTUAL EXPRESSIONS OF GOOD WILL AND A DESIRE TO WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER.

9. COMMENT: KYPRIANOU LOOKED PALE AND HAGGARD. AT ONE POINT IN THE CONVERSATION I SAID THAT I HOPED THE PRESSURES OF PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE WOULD NOT PROVE TOO MUCH FOR HIS HEALTH. TO THIS HE REPLIED THAT I WAS QUITE RIGHT, BUT THAT IN DUTY TO THE NATION HE HAD NO CHOICE.

10. ONE NOTABLE EXCEPTION TO KYPRIANOU'S STATEMENT THAT HE WOULD BE RETAINING MAKARIOS' STAFF IS PATROCLOS STAVROU, WHO SERVED AS UNDER SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENCY DURING THE MAKARIOS ERA. I SAW HIM IN THE OUTER OFFICE JUST BEFORE MY MEETING WITH KYPRIANOU, AND HE TOLD ME WITH EMPHASIS AND A FLAVOR OF PLEASED DEFIANCE THAT HE WAS LEAVING.
CRAWFORD

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